

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W
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P 031429Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9157
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 GENEVA 06727

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR EARLE'S STATEMENTS OF MAY 3, 1978
(SALT TWO-1716)

- STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR EARLE
- MAY 3, 1978

MR. MINISTER:

- I

AS A RESULT OF THE DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW, THE
SIDES ARE NOW AGREED ON THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE FOR
ARTICLE XII OF THE TREATY:

- ARTICLE XII OF THE TREATY

IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE VIABILITY AND
EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS TREATY, EACH PARTY UNDERTAKES
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NOT TO CIRCUMVENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TREATY,
THROUGH ANY OTHER STATE OR STATES, OR IN ANY OTHER
MANNER.

- II

MR. MINISTER, THE FINAL RESOLUTION OF ARTICLE XII

CONSTITUTES A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARD OUR COMMON GOAL
OF COMPLETING A NEW AGREEMENT TO LIMIT STRATEGIC
OFFENSIVE ARMS.

- STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR EARLE
- MAY 3, 1978

MR. MINISTER:

- I

TODAY, PURSUANT TO THE RECENT DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW,
I SHALL ADDRESS THE IMPORTANT UNRESOLVED ISSUES OF REDUC-
TIONS IN THE OVERALL AGGREGATE NUMBER PROVIDED FOR IN
PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE III AND THE LIMITATION ON THE
AGGREGATE NUMBER OF MIRV SYSTEMS PROVIDED FOR IN
PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE V.

- II

IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THESE TWO OUTSTANDING ISSUES, THE
UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL
FOR A REDUCED CEILING IN THE OVERALL AGGREGATE OF 2,250
CONTINGENT UPON SOVIET ACCEPTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES
PROPOSAL FOR AN AGGREGATE NUMBER OF 1,200 MIRV SYSTEMS.

ACCORDINGLY, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THE FOL-
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LOWING REVISED LANGUAGE FOR PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE III:

- PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE III

2. EACH PARTY UNDERTAKES TO LIMIT, FROM
JANUARY 1, 1980, STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS REFERRED
TO IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS ARTICLE TO AN AGGREGATE
NUMBER NOT TO EXCEED 2,250, AND TO INITIATE REDUC-
TIONS OF THOSE ARMS WHICH AS OF THAT DATE WOULD BE
IN EXCESS OF THIS AGGREGATE NUMBER.

THE UNITED STATES ALSO CONFIRMS ITS PROPOSAL FOR PARAGRAPH
2 OF ARTICLE V:

- PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE V

2. WITHIN THE AGGREGATE NUMBER PROVIDED FOR
IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS ARTICLE, EACH PARTY UNDERTAKES
TO LIMIT LAUNCHERS OF ICBMS AND SLBMS EQUIPPED WITH
MIRVS, AND ASBMS EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS, TO AN AGGREGATE
NUMBER NOT TO EXCEED 1,200.

- III

IN THE CONTEXT F THE RESOLUTION OF THESE TWO
ISSUES, TODAY I WILL ALSO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF TIMING
FOR INITIATING AND CARRYING OUT DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION
OF THOSE STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS WHICH WOULD BE IN
EXCESS OF THE 2,250 LIMITATION.

- IV

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THE UNITED STATES HAS PROPOSED THAT THE DISMANTLING
OR DESTRUCTION OF EXCESS STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS BE
INITIATED BY JANUARY 1, 1980, AND BE COMPLETED NO LATER
THAN SIX MONTHS THEREAFTER. IT IS ALSO THE POSITION OF
THE UNITED STATES THAT THE DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF
EXCESS ARMS BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE
TERM OF THE PROTOCOL. WE HAVE PROPOSED THAT THE TERM OF
THE PROTOCOL EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 30, 1980.

THE SOVIET UNION, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAS PROPOSED
THAT DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF EXCESS ARMS BEGIN ON
DECEMBER 30, 1980, AND THAT SUCH DISMANTLING OR DESTRUC-
TION BE COMPLETED WITHIN 18 MONTHS AFTER THAT DATE. THE
SOVIET DELEGATION HAS ALSO STATED THAT DISMANTLING OR
DESTRUCTION OF EXCESS ARMS SHOULD NOT BE INITIATED UNTIL
AFTER THE RESOLUTION OF THE PROTOCOL ISSUES, AND FURTHER

THAT THE TERM OF THE PROTOCOL SHOULD BE THREE YEARS FROM ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY.

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AFTER CAREFUL REVIEW, AND TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE SOVIET DELEGATION, THE UNITED STATES NOW PROPOSES THAT THE TERM OF THE PROTOCOL BE EXTENDED FOR THREE MONTHS TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 1980.

WITH RESPECT TO THE TIME FOR INITIATING DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF EXCESS STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION SHOULD BE INITIATED AT AN EARLY DATE, THAT IS, NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 1980. THE UNITED STATES ALSO CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF EXCESS ARMS SHOULD BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN THE EXPIRATION OF THE TERM OF THE PROTOCOL. THIS WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION IN A TIMELY MANNER AND ENABLE THE SIDES PROMPTLY TO PROCEED TO FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN THE FUTURE.

WITH REGARD TO THE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO DISMANTLE OR DESTROY EXCESS STRATEGIC ARMS, THE UNITED STATES HAS LONG BELIEVED, FOR REASONS WHICH HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY EXPLAINED, THAT THE PROCESS OF DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF EXCESS ARMS COULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN SIX MONTHS. HOWEVER, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE SOVIET SIDE, THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO AGREE TO A PHASED REDUCTION OVER A LONGER PERIOD.

ACCORDINGLY, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT THE PROCESS OF DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF EXCESS STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS BE INITIATED BY JANUARY 1, 1980, PROCEED AT A STEADY RATE TO BE DETERMINED, AND BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 31, 1980, COINCIDENT WITH THE END OF THE TERM OF THE PROTOCOL.

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THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE COMBINATION OF THESE PROPOSALS IS REALISTIC AND CONSISTENT WITH THE MEANS AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THE RELEVANT TASKS, PARTICULARLY GIVEN THE FACT THAT FEWER ARMS WILL NEED TO BE DISMANTLED OR DESTROYED IF THE SIDES AGREE UPON THE

AGGREGATE LIMITATIONS WHICH I HAVE JUST DISCUSSED.

ACCORDINGLY, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING
REVISED PROVISIONS:

- PARAGRAPH 3 OF ARTICLE XI

3. DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF STRATEGIC
OFFENSIVE ARMS WHICH WOULD BE IN EXCESS OF THE
NUMBER SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE III
SHALL BE INITIATED BY JANUARY 1, 1980, SHALL BE
CARRIED OUT AT A STEADY RATE, AND SHALL BE COMPLETED
NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 1980.

- FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PROTOCOL

THIS PROTOCOL SHALL BE CONSIDERED AN INTEGRAL
PART OF THE TREATY. IT SHALL ENTER INTO FORCE ON
THE DATE OF THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY AND
SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1980, UNLESS
REPLACED EARLIER BY AN AGREEMENT ON FURTHER
MEASURES LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS.

- VI

MR. MINISTER, IT IS THE BELIEF OF THE UNITED STATES
THAT THE PROPOSALS WHICH I HAVE MADE TODAY REPRESENT AN
EQUITABLE AND REALISTIC SOLUTION TO THE ISSUES OF THE
OVERALL AGGREGATE AND THE AGGREGATE NUMBER OF MIRV
SYSTEMS, THE TIMING FOR INITIATING AND CARRYING OUT THE
DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF EXCESS STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE

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ARMS, AND THE DATE OF EXPIRATION OF THE TERM OF THE
PROTOCOL. EARLE

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